

Amendments In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 13 through 27 with the following amended paragraph:

Packet Forwarding Process

Fig. 1 illustrates the actions performed by a router during a process of forwarding packets according to an embodiment of the present invention. The order in which the steps of the present method are performed is purely illustrative in nature. In fact, the steps can be performed in any order or in parallel. Initially, the router receives packets from a data flow (step 105). The router dynamically classifies packet flow based on the flow behavior (step 110). The flow behaviors can be classified based on various predefined flow characteristics (e.g., Quality of Service(QoS), type of data, protocol used or the like) or can be dynamically calculated based on the actual flow behaviors. The behaviors of packet flows are identified using conventional behavior classification schemes. One such ~~schemes~~ **scheme** is defined in ~~a co-pending and commonly assigned patent application Serial No. 09/238,552~~ **U. S. Patent No. 6,515,963**, entitled “Per Flow Dynamic Buffer Management,” having David R. Cheritan and Andreas V. Bechtolsheim **as inventors**, which is hereby incorporated by reference, in its entirety and for all purposes.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 30, and ending on page 10, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

When the router has extra bandwidth, the router can dynamically adjust the packet-forwarding schedule for each queue by altering assigned weighting for each queue. For example, when the WBF queue is not fully utilizing the allocated resources (e.g., bandwidth, ports, queues or the like), the router can dynamically increase the weighting of NAF queue (e.g., queue proportion, assigned data rate, or the like) to process relatively more packets from the NAF queue. The router determines whether to adjust the packet-forwarding schedule for the NAF queue (step 160). If the packet-forwarding schedule does not need adjustment, the router proceeds to forward the packet according to the queue weighting and the forwarding scheme

adopted by the router (step 145). If the queue schedule requires adjustment, the router adjusts the queue weighting according to resource availability and network traffic condition (e.g., bandwidth utilization, port availability, packet data rate or the like) **(step 165)**. The router then forwards the packet according to the queue weighting and the forwarding scheme adopted by the router (step 145).